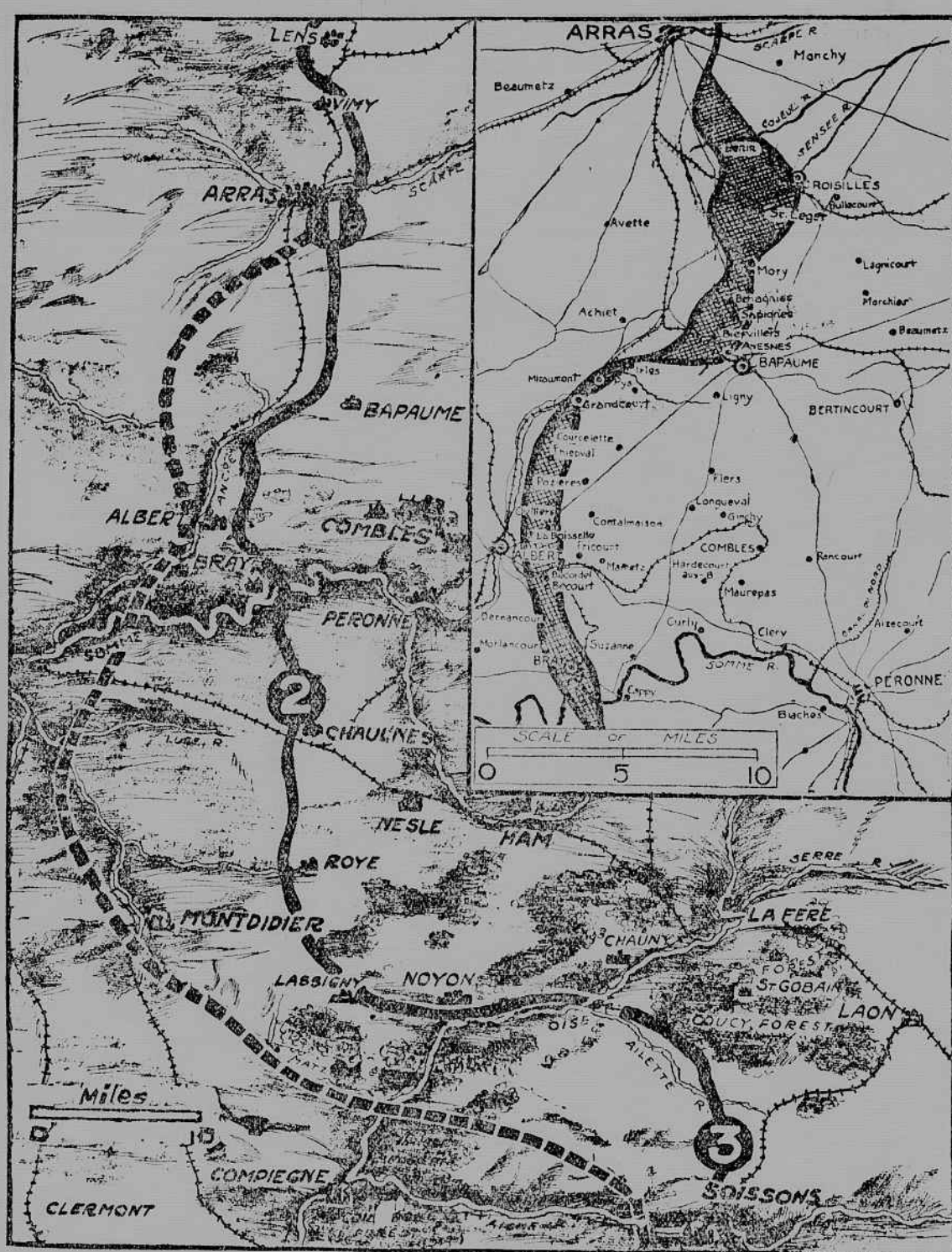


## The Great War—1481st Day

## BRITISH GAINS ON THE SOMME



The British gains yesterday on the Somme between Arras (1) and Chaumes (2) are shown in the cross-hatching on the small map. North of Soissons the French made progress near Crecy-au-Mont (3). The solid line on the large map represents the present fighting zone, the dash line the furthest German advance in 1918.

## The Official Statements

## FRENCH

PARIS (NIGHT).—Between the Ailette and the Aisne we have made progress south of Crecy-au-Mont and taken about 100 prisoners.

West of Fismes the American troops have carried their line as far as the Soissons-Rheims Road on a front of about 800 meters.

On Friday nine German airplanes were brought down or put out of action and a captive balloon was burned. The same day our bombing planes dropped 12,300 kilos of projectiles and fired several thousand cartridges in the region of Anizy-le-Château, Brancourt, Landricourt and Mortier forest, where aerial observers had signalled important enemy reserves and convoys.

PARIS (DAY).—In the region of Lassigny and between the Oise and the Aisne the night was marked by very vigorous artillery actions.

French detachments penetrated enemy trenches in Lorraine at many points and captured prisoners.

## BRITISH

LONDON (NIGHT).—On the battlefront north of the Somme continuous fighting has taken place since the early hours of the morning. Our troops, pressing the enemy hard at all points, have allowed him no respite. Despite the arrival of considerable hostile reinforcements progress has again been realized on the whole front of our attack. Numbers of prisoners and quantities of material of every description have fallen into our hands.

Shortly after midnight Australian troops, attacking along the North bank of the Somme, captured Bray-sur-Somme, securing a number of prisoners. Continuing their advance with great skill and initiative they carried the enemy's positions in this neighborhood.

On their left, London and east county troops made further progress during the night along the high ground southeast of Albert, taking several hundred prisoners. On the right centre of our attack Welsh troops and battalions from the northern counties of England advanced over the ground of the old Somme battlefield of 1916 about La Boisselle, Ovillers, Mouquet Farm, Thiepval and Grandcourt. All these strongly defended localities were captured in the face of determined hostile resistance, together with over 2,000 prisoners.

Our troops are once more astride the Thiepval Ridge and are advancing eastward.

On the left centre of our attack East Lancashire troops have been heavily engaged all day about Miraumont, where the enemy held out with great stubbornness until the village was gradually outflanked by our advancing columns.

North of this village the New Zealand division in the centre of the attack struck in the direction of Bapaume. Advancing with irresistible dash and determination, it carried the defences of Loupart Wood, taking 400 prisoners. Pressing forward with great gallantry, it captured Grevillers and Bievillers and reached Avesnes-le-Bapaume, on the outskirts of Bapaume.

On the flanks of this attack English troops gained possession of Irlis and advanced in the direction of Sapiengies, overcoming strong hostile resistance at Irlis and east of Bihucourt.

On the left of the battlefront English and Scottish divisions and the Guards are fighting on the front of Mory, Croisilles and Neuville Vitasse, and have captured St. Leger, Henin-sur-Cojeul and the hill east of the latter village.

No estimate of captures can yet be given.

On the remainder of the British front successful local actions have taken place. North of the Scarpe we have captured a section of the German front line northeast of Fampoux, with a few prisoners.

North of the La Bassée Canal we captured the old British front line east and northeast of Givenchy and made progress into the German positions in a completely successful operation, in which all objectives were secured, with over sixty prisoners. During the night our patrols occupied Neuf Berquin, where a number of German dead were found by our troops.

This morning we have advanced our line north of Bailleul on a front of a mile, capturing some fifty prisoners. A counter attack attempted by the enemy during the afternoon was crushed by our artillery.

LONDON (DAY).—During the night our troops made progress in the Albert sector and took prisoners.

Early this morning the attack was resumed.

In the three days of fighting since the morning of August 21 our troops on the battle front have captured over 14,000 prisoners and a number of guns.

We carried out a successful operation last evening northwest of Neuf Berquin (in the Lys salient). Local attacks by the enemy during the night north of Bailleul, south of Leere and north of Kemmel were repulsed by sharp fighting.

This morning fighting took place to our advantage north of the La Bassée Canal, in the Givenchy sector.

## GERMAN

BERLIN (NIGHT).—There has been fighting between the Scarpe and the Somme. English attacks south-east of Arras against Bapaume failed.

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## German Press Sees "Dawn of Victory" In Series of Defeats

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 24.—"Our Bapaume front is firm, and we do not doubt it will remain so as long as it pleases the German Command," says a copy of the "Frankfurter Zeitung" received here to-day.

The "Deutsche Zeitung," of Berlin, says: "Lassigny plateau was not conquered by the enemy, but it was evacuated by us for tactical reasons."

"Vorwärts" says Marshal Foch has done his best to bring about a change in the war situation, but has not succeeded.

Captain von Salzmann, of the "Vossische Zeitung," says: "The defensive battle which now is proceeding against the numerical superiority of our enemies as the result of being strengthened by Americans, including negroes, already begins to show the dawn of German victory."

## British Inflict Terrible Loss On Fleeing Foe

Continued from page 1

complete batteries of howitzers and trench mortars, have been captured by the British north of the Somme. Immediately south of the river the British have taken twelve cannon.

## Good Targets for Airmen

The area behind the German lines is jammed with men and transports, indicating confusion, while south of Bapaume the Germans seem to be throwing in more troops.

Never before have the Entente airplanes had such ground targets. A large number of planes are swooping over the road, emptying their machine guns and cargoes of bombs into the enemy masses, damping the roads with dead and wreckage and causing the greatest confusion.

The Allied aviators emptied their guns and dropped their bombs as fast as they could and returned time and again for more ammunition.

British airplanes have dropped a large number of bombs on Thailley, southwest of Bapaume, where the enemy had massed a large number of troops and much material.

There was heavy fighting in Flanders this morning on a small scale in the neighborhood of Dranquette Ridge, in the Lys salient, which is reported to have been captured by the Germans.

On the other hand the British gained some ground in the same region and the fighting continues. Many more prisoners have been taken everywhere.

(S. A. M.)—The battle continued successfully for the Allies last night. The British advanced everywhere and the enemy suffered heavy defeats.

Achiet-le-Grand was taken late yesterday after heavy fighting. The British advanced beyond Bihucourt.

At the same time the British were reported to be still driving the confused Germans before them east of Henin and further south, at St. Leger and Evillers.

Sharp fighting has taken place along the Irlis-Grevillers road. The Germans are clinging to Miraumont, on the Aisne northeast of Albert, and said to be fighting desperately.

## Germans Are Confused

German prisoners say that it was expected by them that the British would stop at the Arras-Albert railroad, and the unexpected success against them had confused the German forces.

Tired and depleted German divisions which have been withdrawn from the battle since August 8 are being rushed back into the fight. Troops from the enemy's strategic reserve divisions, which had been held for later counter attacks, have also appeared along the front.

British advance troops were reported at one time last night to have reached Sapiengies, just north of Bapaume, but they were pushed back slightly by an enemy counter attack. They are reported to be reattacking this village. The town of Behagnies, just to the north, has been wrested from the Germans.

The Third and Fourth British armies since August 8 have captured over 30,000 men. Two thousand were taken yesterday south of the Somme. The British Fourth Army has captured nearly 5,000 in the last two days. The prisoners of this army counted since October 8 total 20,146 men and 598 officers.

North of the Somme a large number of guns have been captured. They include complete batteries of howitzers and trench mortars. Immediately south of the Somme 12 guns have been taken by the British.

South of the Somme 1,000 Germans were killed in one combat. They were closely huddled in front of the British, instead of being in the customary open order. The Allied casualties are very small.

## Tank Successes Supreme

Tanks participated heroically in the fighting yesterday, it is reported. One engaged in a duel with an enemy battery and silenced the German guns. Another group of tanks cooperated with a group of airplanes when the latter attacked German anti-tank guns which had been strategically located at the head of a gully through which the tanks had to go.

One tank suffered seven direct hits, and all the crew was wounded except the pilot, who kept the monster running, finished off a machine gun nest and brought the wobbly, badly damaged tank and his wounded comrades back safely through the rain of fire.

Chateau. His right wing continues to work eastward, its object being to clear the region north of Soissons.

The troops here already have seized the heights east of Bagnieux and further north have reached the outskirts of Crecy-au-Mont. This advance brings them within reach of the main highway from Soissons to Chauny, and enables them to threaten with encirclement the strong German force occupying the high ground at Chavigny and Juvigny.

It is believed here that the Germans at Chavigny and Juvigny will be forced to retire eastward, abandoning all the ground west of the Soissons-Chauny highway.

## Allied Success Undermines Morale Of German Army

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 23.—Further evidence has been gathered that the victories of the Allies have affected considerably the morale of the German troops.

The cause of the depression, which is quite general among the prisoners taken recently, is the conclusion that they have reached, after comparisons, that the Allies' artillery tactics are far superior to theirs. They attribute their defeat to the success of the French in encircling their strong positions and in well directed and concentrated artillery fire. Thus they have been unable to hold even their best sheltered positions.

After the surprise caused by the Allies' successful resistance in the middle of July, the consternation at the successful counter attacks and the depression caused by the retreats, disensions seem to have arisen between elements of the German army. These have resulted in bitter recriminations, information concerning which has been collected recently.

The bulk of the Juvigny Plateau is in the hands of the French, who are again on the edge of the battlefield of 1917. To the north lies the Ailette Valley. Eight miles eastward is Laffaux Mill and the beginning of the Chemin des Dames. French cavalry patrols crossed the Ailette to-day, although the Germans fought desperately to keep them on the west side of the river and the canal.

## Hun Flame Throwers Are Driven Back by American Riflemen

(By The Associated Press)

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE VESLE FRONT, Aug. 23.—American troops to-day carried out another local advance in the same region where they increased their holdings along the Vesle on Thursday. Hand grenades and flame throwers were used by the Germans in an attempt to check the attacks. The flame throwers had little effect, the American troops managing to keep out of the way of them until American riflemen and the American artillery had forced the men with the flame throwers to retire with losses. The Americans overcame a detachment of German infantry and took twelve prisoners.

East of Fismes an American patrol and a German patrol clashed during the night, the Americans taking four prisoners.

A number of fires were reported late Thursday and during Thursday night within the German lines, between the Vesle and the Aisne. American officers are of the opinion that the Germans are burning buildings and material which they do not want or have not time to move.

French and American observers several days ago reported heavy movements of enemy infantry and trucks northward. Prisoners captured by the Americans in the last few days declared they knew nothing about troop movements between the rivers.

The continued pressure of the French and British on the fifty-mile front north of Soissons and other developments lead American officers to believe that the Germans will be forced to withdraw from the line of the Vesle.

German prisoners say that the general opinion among the German soldiers is that Germany cannot win a decisive victory. They believe that Germany will endeavor to hold on in an endeavor to obtain a peace by negotiation.

Yesterday and to-day the Americans on the Vesle experienced the hottest weather of the summer.

## 452 German 'Planes Downed by British Within Fortnight

LONDON, Aug. 24.—A supplemental official communication on aviation, dealing mainly with activities over the zone of the present offensive, issued to-night, says:

On August 23 our machines cooperated closely throughout the day with our troops in the battle area, keeping in touch with their advance and reporting enemy movements. Observation for artillery fire by balloons and airplanes was carried on as usual.

"Our low flying squadron, constantly attacked with machine gun fire and bombs by the German infantry, wagons and guns, throwing them into confusion. Our squadrons, cooperating with tanks, silenced enemy batteries which were impeding our advance.

"A bombing raid on the German air-drome at Ganting, southeast of Douai, was carried out by some of our scouts and escorting machines. Several of the enemy planes were set on fire by direct hits, and machine gun fire was opened from a very low height on troops and transport near by. An enemy machine which attacked our raiders was shot down. All our machines engaged in the raid returned safely.

"A total of twenty-six tons of bombs was dropped by our airmen during the day. Twelve enemy machines were destroyed by us in air fighting, and two more were brought down by fire from the ground. Three other hostile machines were driven down out of control. Four German balloons were shot down in flames. Four of our machines are missing.

"At night, though the weather was cloudy, nearly 50 tons of bombs were dropped by us without the loss of any machines.

"During the last fortnight 328 German airplanes have been brought down by our airmen on the Western front, and 124 driven down out of control. The enemy balloons shot down in the same period amount to thirty-one. The total weight of bombs dropped by us during this period was 594 tons."

## Americans Get Into Fight Over Colonel's Veto

## Machine Gunners Disobey British Officer's Order to Stay Behind

(By The Associated Press)

LONDON, Aug. 24.—How a detachment of American machine gunners contrived to take part in the recent fighting on the British front is told in a letter from an officer commanding a Canadian machine gun section. The letter says:

"We had a large number of American machine gunners attached to our section for instruction. When orders for the attack came our colonel, who regarded the Americans as insufficiently trained for participation, issued strict orders to the Americans to remain behind during the attack.

"We were well across into German territory, when suddenly Americans appeared in the thick of the fray on the right flank. They had been left behind, according to orders, but remained behind only about two minutes, and then took matters into their own hands. As soon as the first wave had gone over they followed the Canadians.

"One of the first officers they encountered on the other side of No Man's Land was the colonel who had commanded them to remain behind, but he was too busy to do much more than frown at them. They excused their presence on the ground that they thought they could prove useful in escorting back prisoners, and the colonel gave them permission to do this.

"But some hours afterward I saw them again well up in the front of the attack close behind our cavalry, and very busy firing their guns, which they must have kept concealed somewhere during their interview with the colonel.

"They worked like veterans and

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## Austrians Advance Eight Miles in New Attack in Albania

LONDON, Aug. 24.—In Albania the Austro-Bulgarian armies yesterday continued their drive along a sixty-mile front from the mouth of the Semeni River to the heights overlooking the Tomorica River, the war offices in Vienna announced to-day.

Between Berat and Fieri the Austrians advanced on a thirty-mile front, the statement said, piercing the Italian lines and driving forward on one sector eight miles to the heights south of Kumanik. The Allied positions northwest of Berat were penetrated.

Heavy losses in killed and prisoners were inflicted on the enemy, according to an Italian official statement given out in Rome to-day.

The Austrian announcement reads: "We have pierced the enemy lines between Berat and Fieri. We carried forward our attacks as far as the heights south of Kumanik, and the Italian positions northwest of Berat have been penetrated."

"These successes were extended yesterday and enemy counter attacks beaten off. We have gained ground in the mountain region of Silesia.

"We have bombed an airdrome near

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